

# LISA and IXO Update

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# LISA and IXO (1/2)

- 3 candidate concepts were competing for ESA's L1 2020 opportunity: LISA, IXO and EJSM/Laplace, each with a significant NASA partnership
- None of these were recommended as top priority by the US decadal surveys
- The decadal rankings combined with the constrained projected out-year resources in the FY12 President's Budget Request led ESA to conclude that a 2020 schedule is not feasible for any of the 3 candidates
- An exploratory ESA activity has started to see if any and which of the science goals of the three L missions could be implemented as an Europe-led mission targeting an early 2020's launch date
  - European "Science Teams" are being formed with rapid mission definition effort
  - A "NASA HQ-empowered scientist" will participate on each of the three Science Teams
  - L1 plan to be discussed at June ESA SPC meeting; tentative plan for downselect foreseen at Feb 2012 SPC meeting

# LISA and IXO (2/2)

- Consideration of the LISA and IXO concepts with the scale and partnerships as proposed to the NWNH decadal survey is ended
- NASA-APD plans to continue the base funding for the LISA and IXO teams through FY11
- NASA-APD will consult with the community about strategic investments in gravity wave and X-ray astrophysics in future years in the context of the NWNH recommendations and projected resource availability.
  - *APD will engage community through discussions and possible solicitations for new concept studies, in parallel with on-going interactions with ESA re-scoped L1 mission candidates*